Sept 23, 1981

Dear Harold,

At long last I think I'm settled into my new job and apartment, and am attempting to get caught up on some long overdue correspondence. I've been meaning to write and let you know how things are going, but everything has been quite hectic so far.

I'm happy to say I was able to find a really beautiful apartment - I'm in an all adult apartment community. It's built on the site of a former golf course, so there's lots of trees & nice landscaping. We also have a huge swimming pool & recreation center, & the complex sponsors all kinds of activities, from softball & camping to weekends in Vermont. So, even though I don't know very many people yet, there are alot of activities I can get involved in — as soon as I find the time!

So far my job is going fairly well, although I still don't think I've been here long enough to decide how much I like or don't like it. Because I'll be rotating through so many bureaus and agencies this first year, I really don't feel as if the benefits of this program will pay-off for at least 3-5 years. Right now, every day is just very hectic & demanding, & I'm never

in any one place long enough to really get involved in their activities or make any meaningful contribution. A few years down the road however, when I am hopefully in a responsible position, I think that the "broad exposure" I've had & the contacts I've made during this internship will prove quite valuable.

Right now, I'm working in my third bureau. Following a week-long orientation, I started in the Comptrollers Office & then moved on to the Bureau of Management Services. I'll be spending all of September in the Bureau of Personnel & then, [redacted] between now & the end of December, I'll be rotating through the Bureau of Labor Relations, Bureau of Affirmative Action, the Budget Office, The Office of Policy & Planning, & The Central Management Information Center. After that, from January through March, I'll spend some time in several state agencies — Education, Transportation, Labor & Industry, Revenue, Health, & The Attorney Generals Office. Finally, during the last 3 months of the program, I'll be assigned to one, specific agency, based primarily on my own interests. Following this year-long internship, I'll be permanently assigned to some agency at a mid-level management position. Right now, I would like to be placed

in the Bureau of Labor Relations, the Mediation Bureau, or the Attorney General's Office, although it's too soon to identify what openings might be available in what agencies next year.

This year is definitely going to be hectic. On top of the rotational assignments & the work I'll be doing in each agency, the 22 interns have been split into 5 Task Forces, each responsible for an ongoing, year-long project. I'm in the group that is working on Regulatory Reform, attempting to identify & solve the problems created by requiring the agencies to comply with an Executive Order & a Management Directive RE: promulgation of regulations. The project is really interesting, but it's so massive & complex that sometimes it feels overwhelming, particularly since we're only working on it a few hours a week — that's all our schedules will permit. On top of all that, we are also participating in 12 management training programs - from Discipline & Grievance Handling to Effective Time Management — and are being briefed by just about every Commission & Council. I'm beginning to think that the purpose of this year is to see how we handle pressure & chaos — so far I've managed to retain some of my sanity.

I'm finally starting to give some serious thought to law school. There are 4 or 5 of us who want to start law school, the only problem

so finding one around here with a part-time program. We're looking into the schools in Philadelphia, hoping to form a car pool to classes. However, we haven't come up with a part-time program yet around here & so are looking into the D.C. area too. I had hoped to start at Dickinson, since it's pretty close, but unfortunately it doesn't have a part-time program. Since my internship will be over in June, I'm also looking into the possibility of getting assigned to some Pittsburgh office, or [redacted] to [redacted] some location close to a law school with the kind of program I want. One way or another, I'm determined to get a law degree.

The past 2 weeks in particular have been pretty trying. Last Friday my task force had to make a presentation for the Budget Secretary & the General Counsel, so we had been spending evenings & weekends trying to get prepared. On top of that, Alex finally left for Florida last week. He flew up here to spend some time with me before he left & we had a very enjoyable time, but when he left & I knew it would be some time before I saw him again [redacted] I got pretty depressed. I'm still feeling rather "bummed out," but I'm starting to pull myself together again. Hopefully, things will work out in the end.

News of a happier nature - Mary is once again a "mother-to-be." She's due somewhere around

St. Patrick's Day & so far everything is going quite well. She called me the other night & was all excited because she had just been to the Doctor's & he had picked up a heartbeat & told her everything looks good. We're all keeping our fingers crossed.

I hope you're feeling better than you were when I last heard from you. I've really been concerned & I feel bad that it's taken me so long to get back to you. Now that I'm a good bit closer, I hope to get down to see you soon. Also, if you could use some help with anything some weekend-, don't hesitate to let me know. I finally bought a new car last month, so I'm not as concerned about breaking down on the road as I was with my old one — although I really hated to give it up, it had become a member of the family!

Say hi to Lil for me. I hope to be seeing you both soon. Meanwhile, take care.

Best,
Karen

P.S. My new address is:

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